

The Journal of the Institute of Medical Ethics

The *Journal of Medical Ethics* was established in 1975, with a multidisciplinary editorial board, to promote the study of contemporary medico-moral problems. The editorial board has as its aims the encouragement of a high academic standard for this developing subject and the influencing of the quality of both professional and public discussion. The journal is published quarterly and includes papers on all aspects of medical ethics, analyses ethical concepts and theories and features case conferences and comment on clinical practice. It also contains book reviews.

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Submitting manuscripts for publication

Papers submitted for publication should be sent in quadruplicate to: The Editor, *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 151 Great Portland Street, London W1N 5PB. Rejected manuscripts are not returned unless accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, or international reply coupon. Papers should be in double-spaced typewriting on one side of the paper only. A total word count is appreciated. On a separate sheet some brief biographical details should be supplied, including the title of the author's present post, degrees and/or professional qualifications, (if any) and any other relevant information.

Four copies of the journal will be sent to authors free of charge after their papers are published. Offprints of individual papers may be bought from Professional and Scientific Publications, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

In March 1981 the *JME* adopted a simplified 'Vancouver style' for references: details are given in various issues, including December 1986. They are also available from the editorial office. The full text of the 'Vancouver Agreement' was published in the *British Medical Journal* in 1982; volume 284; 1766-70. As the 'Vancouver style' is incompatible with the long established style of references for legal articles, lawyers should use their own standard style, but avoid abbreviations so as to facilitate reference by others. The journal is multidisciplinary and papers should be in clear jargon-free English, accessible to any intelligent reader.

Notice to subscribers

The *Journal of Medical Ethics* is published quarterly. The annual subscription rates are £33.00 in the United Kingdom and Irish Republic, and £50.00 in all countries overseas. US direct \$70.00. Payment for overseas subscriptions should be made in sterling, payable to Professional and Scientific Publications/JME A/c. Orders can also be placed locally with any leading subscription agent or bookseller. (For the convenience of readers in the USA subscription orders, with or without payment, can also be sent to: Professional and Scientific Publications, *British Medical Journal*, Box No 560B, Kennebunkport, Maine 04046. (All enquiries, however, must be addressed to the publisher in London). All enquiries regarding air mail rates, single copies, advertisements, etc, should be sent to: Professional and Scientific Publications, Tavistock House East, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

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Thematic review and index

The thematic review of past issues appears in the June issue each year and an index to each volume appears in the December issue.

News and notes

MA in Health Care Ethics: Manchester

The University of Manchester is starting a one-year, full-time MA in Health Care Ethics. It is designed to provide a comprehensive grounding in the methods, problems and theories which bear upon the ethical issues raised by a very broad conception of 'medicine' and 'health'.

It is offered to students able to take advantage of an opportunity for intensive and single-minded study away from the pressures of professional life or other responsibilities.

Applications are also welcomed from students who wish to undertake the course on a two or three year part-time basis. The structure of the part-time version of the course has been specially designed to accommodate students who have career and/or domestic responsibilities. Such students can build their degree from self-contained modules.

There are two core courses: Moral Philosophy and Cases from Health Care Practice. Students must select two further courses from a list of options which includes: Medico-legal problems; Religious faiths and medical ethics; Medical ethics in historical context, and Medicine in modern society.

Candidates must also submit a dissertation of around 20,000 words.

Applications are invited from nurses, doctors, psychologists, teachers, health care administrators, social workers, health visitors, lawyers, hospital chaplains, clergy and others involved in care and counselling and all those involved with handicap.

Applications are also invited from those who wish to further their interest in health care ethics, whatever their background.

Application forms may be obtained from: Mrs S Ibbotson, Department of Education, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL.

Completed applications may be returned to any of the following: Dr J M Harris, Department of Education; Professor A O Dyson, Department of Theological Studies, or Professor L A Turnberg, The Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, all at: University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL.

MA in Medical Ethics and Law: London

A new MA course in Medical Ethics and Law is to start in October at King's College, London University. The course draws on previous experience at the King's College Centre of Medical Law and Ethics with its diploma course in the same subject.

Overall direction of the course will be by Professor Ian Kennedy, Professor of Medical Law and Ethics, and a member of the General Medical Council. Course Director will be a physician trained in philosophy, Dr Raanan Gillon, editor of the *Journal of Medical Ethics* and a Senior Fellow and Director of the Centre.

The course will last one year full-time or two years for part-time students. Teaching will be by seminars, lectures, case presentation and analysis and supervised study, and attendance will be required of full-time students on two afternoons a week from 2-5 plus a weekly tutorial of one hour from 12-1. Further details are available from The Secretary, Centre of Medical Law and Ethics, King's College, London, The Strand, London WC2R 2LS.

International Fellowship Programme

As part of its Programme on International Bioethics, The Hastings Center is to provide individuals from other countries with an opportunity for independent study of ethical problems in medicine, the life sciences and the professions. The purpose of this programme is to enable international scholars to spend time at the center for advanced study and research, usually for a period of one month. During their stay, scholars will be encouraged to participate in the ongoing activities of the center, such as conferences, seminars and workshops.

The Hastings Center is able to provide partial subsidies for applicants. These subsidies will be awarded on the basis of three criteria: (1) a distinguished academic and/or professional record, (2) a commitment to scholarly work in the field, and (3) the ability of the center to make a substantial contribution to the applicant's interests. Because the center has a limited number of offices, availability of space is also a consideration.

For the materials and forms outlining the application requirements contact: The Director of Education, The Hastings Center, 360 Broadway, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, USA. Phone: (914) 478-0500.

Health, Law and Ethics

The American Society of Law and Medicine's Second International Conference on Health, Law and Ethics to be held from July 18-21, 1989 at the Logan Hall, London University will include sessions on: AIDS: Law and medicine in the developing world; Risk

management/malpractice; Is there enough space in the medical lifeboat? Life's end: hard choices or not?; Law, psychiatry and forensic medicine, and New conceptions.

Further details, including how to apply to attend the conference will be published in the journal as they become available.

Physician Independence and Professional Freedom

The World Medical Association adopted the following declaration on Physician Independence and Professional Freedom at its 38th World Medical Assembly, held at Rancho Mirage, California in October last year.

'Physicians must recognise and support the rights of their patients, particularly as set forth in the World Medical Association Declaration of Lisbon (1981).

Physicians must have the professional freedom to care for their patients without interference. The exercise of the physician's professional judgement and discretion in making clinical and ethical decisions in the care and treatment of patients must be preserved and protected.

Physicians must have the professional independence to represent and defend the health needs of patients against all who would deny or restrict needed care for those who are sick or injured.

Within the context of their medical practice and the care of their patients, physicians should not be expected to administer governmental or social priorities in the allocation of scarce health resources. To do so would be to create a conflict of interest with the physician's obligation to his patients, and would effectively destroy the physician's professional independence, upon which the patient relies.

While physicians must be conscious of the cost of medical treatment and actively participate in cost containment efforts within medicine, it is the physician's primary obligation to represent the interests of the sick and injured against demands by society for cost containment that would endanger patients' health and perhaps patients' lives.

By providing independence and professional freedom for physicians to

practise medicine, a community assures the best possible health care for its citizens, which in turn contributes to a strong and secure society.'

Social Sciences and Medicine

A conference on the Social Sciences and Medicine will be held at Hotel Terramar, Sitges, Spain 26-30 October 1987.

The themes on this occasion will be: AIDS as a social phenomenon; Cultural issues in maternal and child health; Developments in the study of 'stress' and disease; Defining the legitimate boundaries of epidemiology and related social sciences; Health care institutions and traditions in Muslim cultures; The impact and integration of behavioural sciences in the education of health care professionals; Community involvement in health policy: socio-structural and dynamic aspects of health beliefs; The economics of essential drug programmes; The philosophical basis of medical ethics; The political abuse of medicine; International health agencies: their nature, strengths and weaknesses; Problems in the assessment of alternative medicine; The role of socio-behavioural scientists in health care practice; Reproductive trends and the emergence of moral panic; Medical ethics in the primary care setting; Social and psychological care before and during hospitalisation; Technical innovation: assessment, diffusion and transfer; Theoretical tensions in biopsychosocial models of health care; The viability of the concept of a primary health care team; and When is a data set complete?

For further details and application forms write to: Dr P J M McEwan, Glengarden, Ballater, Aberdeenshire AB3 5UB, Scotland, UK.

Values and Ethics

Loyola University of Chicago and Loyola University Press are to publish a thematic series of books under the general title *Values and Ethics*. The series will cover: the humanities, history, mathematics, the natural sciences, the social sciences, philosophy, theology, law education, medicine, and the helping professions.

Prospective authors should submit a letter of inquiry and a summary outline

that indicates the manuscript's general area, specific topic or theme, contents, and length to the chairperson of the board. A short *curriculum vitae* may also be enclosed.

Mailing Address: Dr Gerald Gutek, Chairperson, Editorial Board of the University Press Series, Loyola University of Chicago, Graduate School, Lewis Towers 401, 820 N Michigan Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611, USA.

Call for papers

The June 1988 issue of *Theoretical Medicine* will be devoted to the topic, 'professional Organisation of Physicians'. Papers submitted are due no later than October 20, 1987 and will be peer-reviewed. Authors interested in medical ethics, health economics and health policy are invited to submit papers. Cross-cultural perspectives would be especially welcomed. *Theoretical Medicine* is an international and interdisciplinary journal for the philosophy and methodology of medical research and practice. For a more detailed description and information for authors, contact the issue's Guest Editor: Allen R Dyer, MD, PhD, Department of Psychiatry, Box 3838, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710, USA.

Ethical Issues in Cancer Care

A multidisciplinary conference on the ethical issues involved in cancer care will be held on Monday 15 June 1987, from 9.00 am – 5.00 pm at the Robin Brook Centre, St Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

Topics covered will be: Establishing a basis for care – the individual and the family; Living with cancer; Dying with cancer; Is euthanasia an option?; To tell or not to tell – a contract with the patient; Clinical trials and informed consent; Cancer and Society – is prevention possible?; and Cancer screening – benefits, risks and costs.

Tickets cost £35.00, which includes coffee, lunch and tea and are available from: Administrative Officer, Institute of Oncology, Marie Curie Memorial Foundation, 28 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QG. Tel: 01-235 1323.

Thematic review of past issues

Volumes 1-13/1

(April 1975-March 1987 inclusive)

As a service to our readers we are continuing to publish annually, a compilation under thematic headings of articles which have appeared in the journal since its inception in April 1975. Although we already publish at the end of each volume (December issue) an index for that volume it is felt that such a list allows new readers and researchers to see at a glance the range of topics covered so far. Our aim is to show the main themes covered.

Readers will also appreciate that in some cases articles could easily have been classified differently. We have classified the articles into very broad categories which cannot always do justice to every aspect of their content.

Abortion, sterilisation and contraception

- 1975 VOLUME 1/1
Case conference: Abortion and sterilisation
 Sir Dugald Baird, Hugh Maclaren and J E Roberts
Commentary: Raymond Plant
- VOLUME 1/3
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Main article: Induced abortion: epidemiology aspects
 Sir Dugald Baird
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 R F R Gardner
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Focus: Child sterilisation BBC Discussion
- 1976 VOLUME 2/1
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 Amitai Etzioni
- VOLUME 2/3
Main article: Congenital abnormalities and selective abortion
 Mary J Seller
- 1977 VOLUME 3/2
The parliamentary scene: The Abortion (Amendment) Bill
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- 1978 VOLUME 4/1
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 Sue Teper
Main article: Recent and possible future trends in abortion
 François Lafitte
- VOLUME 4/2
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 Tony Smith
- 1979 VOLUME 5/3
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 Ellen Frankel Paul and Jeffrey Paul
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- VOLUME 5/4
Report from America: The trials of Dr Waddill
 Bernard Towers
The parliamentary scene: Abortion (Amendment) Bill
 Tony Smith

- 1980 VOLUME 6/1
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 A D Farr
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 Tony Smith
- 1982 VOLUME 8/4
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 Mary J Seller
- 1983 VOLUME 9/3
Main article: Abortion and euthanasia of Down's syndrome children - the parents' views
 Billie Shepperdson
- 1984 VOLUME 10/1
Main article: Depo-Provera - ethical issues in its testing and distribution
 Malcolm Potts and John M Paxman
- VOLUME 10/2
Main article: Ethical dilemmas in clinical genetics
 I D Young
Response: Ethics and surveys
 R S Downie
- 1986 VOLUME 12/2
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 Alison Davis
Debate: Informed dissent: the views of some mothers of severely mentally handicapped young adults
 Madeleine Simms
- VOLUME 12/3
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 Bernard M Dickens

Animal rights

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 R G Frey
Symposium 2: Vivisection, morals, medicine: commentary from an antivivisectionist philosopher
 T L S Sprigge
Response: R G Frey
Symposium 3: Vivisection, morals, medicine: commentary from a vivisection professor of pharmacology
 Sir William Paton
Response: R G Frey

Artificial insemination

- 1975 VOLUME 1/1
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 M G Kerr and Carol Rogers
Main article: Problems of selecting donors for artificial insemination
 R Schoysman
Main article: Cryobanking of human sperm
 Max S Frankel
Main article: AID and the Law
 D J Cusine
Main article: Ethical aspects of donor insemination
 G R Dunstan

- VOLUME 1/2
Focus: Our future inheritance
 R V Short

- 1977 VOLUME 3/4
Main article: Artificial insemination with the husband's semen after death
 D J Cusine
- 1978 VOLUME 4/2
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 Roger Higgs
- VOLUME 4/4
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 Bernard Towers
- 1983 VOLUME 9/3
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 Gillian Hanscombe
- VOLUME 9/4
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- 1984 VOLUME 10/1
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 Report of a working party

- 1978 VOLUME 4/2
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- 1979 VOLUME 5/1
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Jane S Sturges, Donald R Sweeney and David Pickar
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Main article: Taboos and clinical research in West Africa
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Main article: Medical experiments on human beings
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Arthur Schafer
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- 1987 VOLUME 13/1
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- 1976 VOLUME 2/1
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A stamped addressed A4 envelope
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The Institute of Medical Ethics is a centre for research, education and information. It is financed by grants from charitable bodies, government sources and members' subscriptions.

It was established as the Society for the Study of Medical Ethics, and is an independent, non-partisan organisation for the multidisciplinary study of medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine.

The institute aims to influence the quality of both professional and public discussion of medico-moral questions; to promote the study of medical ethics; to ensure a high academic standard for this developing subject; to encourage a multidisciplinary approach to discussion of the consequences of clinical practice; to stimulate research in specific problems, and to remain non-partisan and independent of all interest groups and lobbies.

The institute undertakes research on medico-moral questions, sponsors a major educational programme and provides an information service for members.

Two reports, *The Ethics of Resource Allocation in Health Care* by Kenneth Boyd and *Dilemmas of Dying* by Ian Thompson, were published, by the Edinburgh University Press, a few years ago.

Last year two more reports were published. One, on the ethics of clinical research investigations on children, *Medical Research with Children: Ethics, Law and Practice* by Richard Nicholson was published by the Oxford University Press and *Life Before Birth – the Search for a Consensus on Abortion and the Treatment of Infertility* by Kenneth Boyd, Brendan Callaghan and Edward Shotter, was published by SPCK. The *Pond Report on Teaching Medical Ethics*, a summary of which has appeared in the IME Bulletin, will be published in full this year.

The institute derives from the London Medical Group, a student group for the study of issues raised by the practice of medicine which, since 1963, has arranged a comprehensive programme of lectures and symposia on medico-moral issues raised by the practice of medicine. Similar groups associated with the institute have been established in university teaching hospitals at Aberdeen, Birmingham, Bristol, Cambridge, Cardiff, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Oxford, Sheffield and Southampton.

Membership of the institute is open to all those who work in the medical and allied professions or who have an interest in medical ethics. Members receive a monthly briefing on current developments, the Bulletin of the IME. The quarterly *Journal of Medical Ethics* is available by separate subscription.

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